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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : CINCSO FOR POLAD, Amembassy TEGUCIGALPA, SAN SALVADOR,
MANAGUA, SAN JOSE, DGD

FROM : Amembassy GUATEMALA DATE: November 10, 1967

SUBJECT : Weekly Internal Security Report: 11/3-9/67

REF : ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

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PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
NOV 16 1967

1. The week produced nothing worth particular attention. The level of political violence was moderate and as in recent weeks the insurgents remained on the defensive.

2. The weeks collection of incidents included the standard mix. There were 3 fatal shootings, 2 in the Department of Chiquimula. A private citizen, Efrain Humberto Zenon was shot down while he was in the headquarters of the Army reserve in Chiquimula, and a Comisionado Militar, Victor Sarcen Siraguen, was taken from a bus in Ipala and shot. The final killing was in Nueva Concepcion, Escuintla, where Jose de Jesus Morales Bateo was shot in cold blood in his house. The motives for none of the shootings are known. There were also 2 non-fatal shooting incidents which appeared to be political.

3. Bodies of assassination victims continued to be found. There were 6 this week: one, identified as Javier Villela Miranda, was found in Ipala, Department of Chiquimula, where another Comisionado, Sarcen Siraguan, was shot.

4. Miscellaneous incidents included a Q22,000 payroll robbery, the theft of an ambulance by men armed with submachine guns (it was recovered later), and an attempted kidnapping. Also another asylee was denied safe conduct and called a common, not political, criminal. This time it was Hector Rodolfo Sandoval Alegria who has been in the Mexican Embassy since August 10.

5. The police reported 4 captures: 2 extortionists who had been using the name of a clandestine organization were arrested in Escuintla, and 2

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presumed guerrillas were taken in the capital.

6. A clue to one aspect of the public mood might be found in a statement made on November 6 by Minister of Government Hector Mansilla Pinto. He said "The police are not a threat to but a protection for the people, who should have confidence in the force." The very fact that he considered the statement worth making sheds some light on his attitude at least regarding the public attitude toward the police.

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Enclosure

LIST OF INCIDENTS

- Nov. 2 - Highway Department payroll of Q22,000 stolen by 3 armed men. Not known if incident related to politics.
- 2 - Two extortionists who acted in name of clandestine organizations arrested in Escuintla.
- 3 - Attempt to kidnap Leonel Samayoa Brahma in front of his Zone 9 house fails as Samayoa, suspicious, flees.
- 3 - Unidentified body found with 14 gunshot wounds on railroad tracks in Zone 4 of the capital.
- 3 - Two presumed guerrillas, with hand grenades in their possession, captured by National Police in the capital. They were identified as Manuel Marroquin Iguardia and Jorge Eduardo Velasquez Lima.
- 3 - Safe conduct denied for Hector Rodolfo Sandoval Alegria. He has been in asylum in the Mexican Embassy since August 10. GOG rules him to be common, not political, criminal and urges GOM to reconsider asylum issue.
- 3 - Press reported policeman, guarding address in Zone 8, fired on and wounded presumably from nearby building or passing car.
- 3 - Comisionado Militar taken from bus in Ipala, Dept. Chiquimula, and shot dead by unknown armed men. He was identified as Victor Sarcen Siraquian. No political motive known.
- 4 - Unidentified persons shot and killed Efrain Humberto Zenon in the headquarters of Army reserves in Chiquimula. No political motive known.
- O/A 4 - Unidentified body found killed by gun shots in Jutiapa. No political motive known.
- 4 - Body of Comisionado Militar from Ipala, Dept. Chiquimula, Javier Villela Miranda found shot to death in Ipala. No political motive known.
- 4 - A military policeman was attacked and wounded in Barberena, Dept. Santa Rosa. He was identified as Domingo Guerra y Guerra. Also wounded was Pedro Morente Jorge, a presumed attacker. Two more presumed attackers, Roberto Vasquez Oliveres and Felipe Gomez Perez captured.

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- Nov. 5 - Armed band shot down Jose de Jesus Morales Bateo in cold blood in his home in Nueva Concepción, Dept. Escuintla. No political motive known.
- 6 - Body of Miguel Angel Perez Gonzalez reported found by authorities of Cos-tepequez, Dept. Quezaltenango.
- 6 - Minister of Government declares police is a protection rather than a threat to citizens.
- 8 - Red Cross ambulance stolen by 3, possibly members of subversive element. Ambulance abandoned in Zone 1 but doctor's bag stolen. Police claim to have leads.
- 8 - Body of Juan Osorio found dead and beaten in Entre Rios, Morales, Dept. Izabal. He had been kidnapped 5 days before.

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